

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 are pending in the present application. The Examiner issued an Advisory Action on July 31, 2001 withdrawing the rejection of claim 1 under Miyano, Jungleib and Akutsu. The Examiner maintained the rejection of claims 1-6 under Farrand.

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1 under Miyano, Jungleib and Akutsu. However, Applicant does not understand the basis of the Examiner's maintenance of the rejection under Farrand and requests that the Examiner reconsider his rejection.

The present invention is directed to an electronic musical instrument that allows a keyboard for a computer to be directly connected to the instrument. The Examiner is apparently relying on Fig. 1 of Farrand to supply such a teaching. However, an examination of the specification and drawings of Farrand overall reveals that this reference merely discloses a typical connection between an electronic musical instrument and a computer.

Farrand discloses an electronic keyboard 12, a MIDI interface 14, a programmable data processor 16 of a personal computer and a computer keyboard 24. The electronic keyboard 12 is connected to the MIDI interface 14, which is in turn connected to the processor 16. The specification explains that the MIDI interface 14 can be integrated within the processor 16, embodied as an Apple Macintosh SE computer (see col. 6, lines 38-46). The electronic keyboard 12 is thus either connected to the MIDI interface 14 which, in turn, is connected to the processor 16 or the electronic keyboard 12 is connected to the MIDI interface within the processor 16. In either case, the keyboard 24 of the processor 16 is not directly connected to the electronic musical keyboard. The electronic musical keyboard has no connection or interface for directly connecting such a computer keyboard. Thus, from the specification alone, it is clear that Fig. 1 in no way intends to show that the MIDI interface 14 is connected to the keyboard 24 rather than the processor 16.

Farrand's choice of a Macintosh SE computer as the processing means 16 also clarifies this point. The Macintosh SE computer is a standard personal computer, and its PC keyboard does not have any connection for an electronic musical instrument. Rather, the processor unit has the connection for any external peripherals. Thus, the choice of the Macintosh SE computer further supports the conclusion that the electronic musical instrument 12 is connected to the processor 16 and not to the computer keyboard 24.

Fig. 1 of the drawings does not illustrate any direct connections to the keyboard. Rather, Fig. 1 illustrates a cable emerging from the MIDI interface 14 and another cable emerging from the attached printer 20, both of which disappear behind the keyboard 24. The keyboard 24 of a Macintosh SE computer certainly cannot support a direct output connection to a printer, just as it cannot support a direct input connection from an electronic musical instrument. Thus, Fig. 1 of Farrand simply discloses standard connections between (a) an electronic musical instrument and (b) a computer and a printer and a computer.

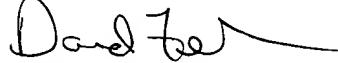
In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that all of the claims in the present application, which specifically recite that the electronic musical instrument has at least one terminal for connection to a computer keyboard and a connection interface for connecting the keyboard directly to the electronic musical instrument, are in condition for allowance. The musical instrument 12 of Farrand has no such connection or interface. If the Examiner feels that it would advance the prosecution of the application, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone the attorney of record.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no. 39303.20125.00. However,

the Assistant Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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